

North Lake Tahoe Recreation Update July 2, 2007

This just in (as of 9:15 a.m. this morning) . . . the Angora Fire is 100 percent contained and the evacuation center will close today. All highways have been reopened. Sunny and clear skies dominate the horizon as the region's businesses play host to thousands of visitors recreating and staying in North Lake Tahoe this Fourth of July week.

Locals' Secret: Each year, many local residents make plans to catch the region's three consecutive days of illuminating fireworks, all in North Lake Tahoe, with celebrations scheduled for July 3, 4 and 5. (See details below).

Incline Village and Crystal Bay pull out all the stops with a multi-day celebration, scheduled for June 30 to July 8, called Red, White and Tahoe Blue. A dueling fireworks display takes place Wednesday, July 4, 9 p.m., at the Village Green.

Fireworks also get under way at Kings Beach on Lake Tahoe's North Shore Tuesday, July 3. The show starts at 9 p.m. (and the deck party begins at 7 p.m.). Fireworks can be best seen from the Kings Beach State Recreation Area and the North Tahoe Conference Center.

Tahoe City's celebration begins at 9:30 p.m. at Commons Beach Wednesday, July 4. Prime viewing spots are from the beach, where family picnics are popular, as well as various locations, including restaurants, throughout town along North Lake Boulevard.

On the West Shore, the West Shore Café is sponsoring a private fireworks party Thursday, July 5. In conjunction with the fireworks, the restaurant will be serving a set menu dinner accompanied by live music during the evening.

Squaw Valley USA offers a Soaring Kites and Music Festival this Saturday, July 7 with pro and amateur kite fliers, kids' kite-making seminar and live music. For more information, click to www.squaw.com.

Take advantage of the summer in the cool Sierra Mountains by enjoying The Lake Tahoe Food & Wine Festival in Crystal Bay this weekend (July 7-8). The celebration begins on Saturday with the popular Lake Tahoe Food & Wine Festival as the main event, on the luckiest day of the century 07/07/07, at the Crystal Bay Club in both indoor and outdoor venues. The party continues Sunday at the popular Tahoe Biltmore's Brews, Blues Barbeques. For details, click to http://insidetahoe.net/fw_fest.php.

The Tahoe Arts Festival brings the romantic art of street painting, called I Madonnari, to the North Shore of Lake Tahoe for the ninth year this Saturday and Sunday (July 7-8) at the Cal-Neva Resort & Spa in Crystal Bay. Admission is free. Click to www.laketahoeartsfestival.com for more information.

The free shuttle to Emerald Bay runs through October 7. The shuttle starts at 10 a.m. in Tahoe City at the Bank of America building and travels to Emerald Bay's Eagle Falls. The last bus from Emerald Bay leaves at 7 p.m. For complete details, click to www.laketahoetransit.com.

The North Lake Tahoe Express daily airport shuttle service is available to and from North Lake Tahoe and the Reno-Tahoe International Airport. The shuttle runs from 3:30 a.m. until 12 midnight. Fees are \$35 per person, one-way, and \$60 round trip. Discounts available for groups of two or more. Reservations are required and can be made four hours in advance. Click to www.northlaketahoeexpress.com.

For a snapshot of upcoming special events, as well as recreational activities of recent scenes, go to www.GoTahoeNorth.com and click on the web video for the North Tahoe Minute.

North Lake Tahoe is a 45-minute drive from the Reno-Tahoe International Airport, two hours from the Sacramento International Airport and just over three hours from the San Francisco International Airport. For lodging reservations and event details, call North Lake Tahoe at 1-877-949-3286 or visit www.GoTahoeNorth.com. Visitor information centers are located at 380 North Lake Boulevard in Tahoe City and 969 Tahoe Boulevard in Incline Village.

The North Lake Tahoe Recreation Update is part of a partnership between the North Lake Tahoe Visitors Bureaus, the Incline Village Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau and the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association. The combined efforts of both entities are aimed to further promote North Lake Tahoe as a premier, year-round destination.